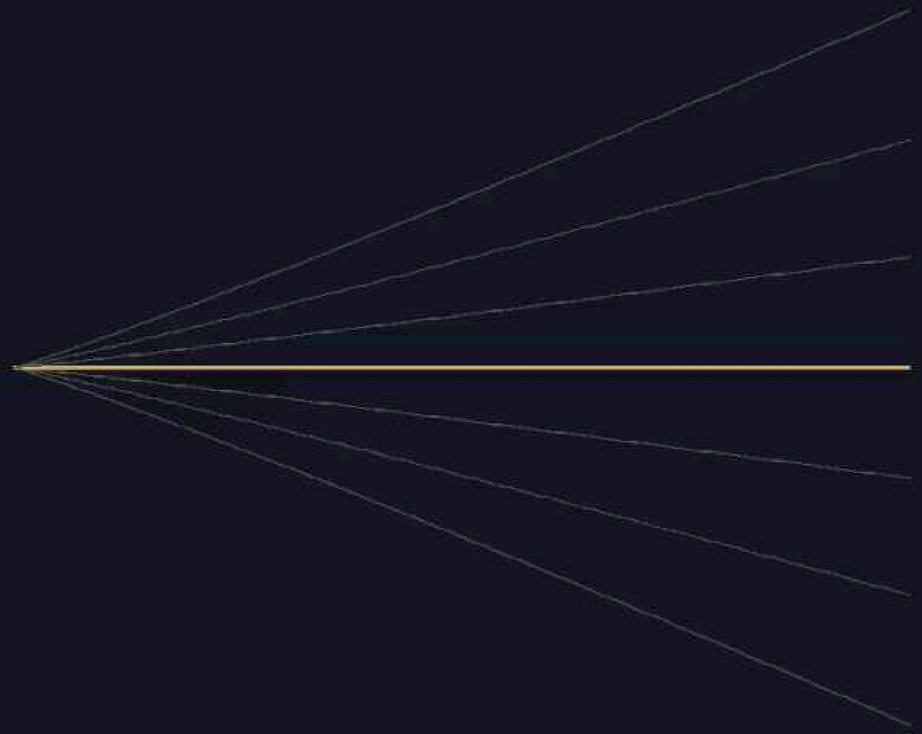
ANDERSON ACADEMY

EGYP 101 B · Introduction to Egyptian Hieroglyphs Middle Egyptian (Brief course)

Lecture 5 · about 7 min

Pronouns, Adjectives, and Simple Sentences



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This lecture

- Pronouns
- The genitive and adjectives
- Prepositions
- Sentences and verbs

¶ 5.1

We meet the common prepositions, then the sentences without verbs that are so frequent in Egyptian,

Suffix pronouns, singular 1

Sign	Meaning
Seated man	i: I, my
Basket, k	k: you, your, masculine
Tether, T	T: you, your, feminine

¶ 5.2

The seated man, i, means I or my.

Suffix pronouns, continued

Suffix	Meaning
f	he, his
s	she, her
n	we, our
Tn	you, plural
sn	they, their

¶ 5.3

So pr.f means his house, pr.s means her house, and pr.n means our house.

Independent pronouns

Egyptian	English
ink	I
ntk	you, masculine
ntf	he
nts	she

¶ 5.5

They often stand at the head of a sentence to stress who is involved.

The direct genitive

- Two nouns side by side
- nb tAwy: lord of the Two Lands
- pr nsw: house of the king
- Possessor comes second

¶ 5.6

This is the direct genitive.

The indirect genitive

Form

- n
- nt
- nw

Used

- after a masculine noun
- after a feminine noun
- after a plural

¶ 5.7

So Hmt nt nsw is the wife of the king.

Adjective agreement

Egyptian	English
nTr nfr	good god
nTrt nfrt	good goddess
nTrw nfrw	good gods

¶ 5.8

Good gods are nTrw nfrw.

Prepositions

Egyptian	Meaning
m	in, with
n	to, for
r	to, toward
Hr	on, upon
n.f	to him

¶ 5.9

And the word xr means with or near.

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Compound prepositions

Egyptian	Meaning
m Hr	in front of
Hr ib	in the middle of
m xt	after

¶ 5.10

Many such phrases use parts of the body, and they show how concretely the Egyptians thought.

Adverbial sentences

- No verb needed
- iw.f m pr: he is in the house
- iw introduces a statement
- Subject plus a phrase of place

¶ 5.11

The little word iw introduces a statement, and the suffix f is the subject.

Sentences without verbs

Adjectival

- Adjective first
- nfr sw: he is good

Nominal

- Noun with noun
- ink sS: I am a scribe

¶ 5.12

I am a scribe.

The basic verb

- Model verb: sDm, to hear
- sDm.f: he hears
- Order: verb, subject, object
- sDm.f xrw: he hears the voice

¶ 5.13

The verb comes first, then the subject, then any object.

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Present and past

Form	Meaning
sDm.f	he hears
sDm.n.f	he heard
sDm.n sS	the scribe heard

¶ 5.14

These two forms, sDm.f and sDm.n.f, carry a great deal of Middle Egyptian narrative.

Other verb forms

- Stative: completed states
- Infinitive
- Participles
- Emphatic forms, still debated

¶ 5.15

For reading stelae and simple narrative, sDm.f and sDm.n.f, together with the sentences without verbs,

Negation

Form	Usual meaning
n sDm.f	he did not hear
n sDm.n.f	he does not, cannot hear

¶ 5.16

while n sDm.n.f usually means he does not or cannot hear.

Practice

Egyptian	English
pr.k	your house
nb.i	my lord
iw.s m pr	she is in the house
nTr nfr	the good god

¶ 5.17

Then write each in hieroglyphs using the signs you know.